

# PLAIN TALKS



October - November, 1977





# WELCOME ABOARD

## SYSTEM DEPARTMENTS

### Information & Data Services

Beckerich, Paula C., Bmt., Key punch Oper - DSO  
Hicks, Debra C., Bmt, PBX Oper - Records

## BEAUMONT DIVISION

### Division Production

Page, Larry J., Bmt, Oper Helper - Neches Sta-Operns  
McGowan, Michael E., Bmt, Laborer I - Neches Sta-Labor Crews

### Distribution

Revia, Scott R., Bmt, Laborer I-T&D/Garage  
Anderson, Ronald W., Silsbee, Helper-T&D/Lab Crews

### Division Accounting

McNeely, Carliss A., BMT, Stenographer-Cred & Coll

## PORT ARTHUR DIVISION

### Distribution

Roach, Randall D., Pt Arth, Helper-T&D/Lab Crews  
DuPlant, Craig N., Pt Arth, Helper-T&D/Lab Crews

## WESTERN DIVISION

### Distribution

Division Accounting  
Coe, David L., Conroe, Laborer I-Stores

## BATON ROUGE DIVISION

### Division Production

White, James M., B Rouge, Oper Helper - La Sta-Operns  
Rice, Billy D., B Rouge, Laborer I-W/Glen - Labor Crews  
Watts, Grant M., B Rouge, Laborer I - La Sta-Labor Crews  
Zummo, Peter J., B Rouge, Laborer I - La Sta-Labor Crews  
Mitchell, Lydia, A., B Rouge, Dept Clerk-W/Glen - Eng & Clerical  
Wease, Dusty L., B Rouge, Laborer I - La Sta-Labor Crews

### Division Accounting

Newman, Valerie D., B Rouge, Clerk-Cred & Coll  
Hyatt, Mark C., B Rouge, Laborer I-Stores  
Doiron, Carole B., B Rouge, Clerk-Cred & Coll  
Pietri, Cheryl B., B Rouge, Clerk-Stores  
Luneau, Linda B., B Rouge, Clerk-Cred & Coll

## LAKE CHARLES DIVISION

### Division Production

Chipman, Howard K., L Chas, Mech Helper-Nel Sta - Maint-Mechl

### Distribution

Feast, Wilkins A., Jr., L Chas, Laborer I-T&D/Garage  
Corbello, Harold L., L Chas, Garage Mech 2/C-T&D/Garage

### Division Accounting

Childress, Ronald, D., L Chas, Laborer I-Stores  
Flugence, Pauline L., Lafay, Clerk-Cust Accts  
Donnell, Diana L., Jennings, Local Office Clerk-Overall

## EMPLOYED

Brouillette, Orvil J., Bmt, Engineer-Sys Engrg - Eng Des/Res Des & Co-or  
Bishop, Julie A., Bmt, Financial Analyst-Fin Servs  
Charlton, Joseph W., Bmt, Financial Analyst-Fin Servs



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# PLAIN TALKS

Volume 55 - Number 8

October-November, 1977

Pat McMeel, ABC  
Editor

Rick Harvin, Contributing Editor

Ken Haynie, Artist

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## WELCOME ABOARD

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### THE COVER:

The oil rig has become symbolic in representing energy in this nation. This particular well is located in the Spindletop field of south Beaumont in an area that gave birth to such companies as Texaco, Gulf and Sun Oil. Oil and natural gas are still available today, but it takes a fuel adjustment clause to cover the cost of using those fuels to meet the needs of our customers. See page two.

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GULF STATES UTILITIES CO.

P. O. Box 2951

Beaumont, Texas 77704

Member:  
 **Houston**



# FUEL ADJUSTMENT IS NOT A DIRTY WORD.

**(just misunderstood)**

The how, what, when and where decisions that determine our Company's fuel mix are ongoing processes that require skill, planning, money, a little luck . . . and a fuel adjustment charge.

Gulf States has had to pay more than \$1 million per day several times this summer to cover the cost of fuel needed to generate enough electricity to meet the peak load demands of its customers. And there is every indication that, in future years, this could become the rule rather than the exception.

The biggest single expense Gulf States has . . . fuel . . . is requiring the close scrutiny and careful control of many employees in a concerted effort that is proving worthwhile for us, the customer, and the investor.

Coping with fuel expenses, unit availability, fuel procurement, transportation of that fuel, and finding the money to pay for all this is a day-to-day planning challenge that must be successfully managed by a number of Company personnel. And it is also the reason for that item shown on the monthly electric bill as "Fuel Adjustment."

J. R. "Pat" Murphy, senior vice president-Production, strongly voiced the need for public understanding. "I'm not surprised the public doesn't understand what we and other investor-owned utilities face in trying to balance our generation requirements and why or what is the purpose of the fuel adjustment clause. Many of our own employees don't fully understand this complex issue either."

Murphy went on to explain that the Company has a definite responsibility to the customer to make every possible effort to manage fuel costs so that

those costs remain as low and as stable as possible. And there is a responsibility to the investors of our Company to maintain financial integrity. "Unless we operate constantly with that thought in mind," said Murphy, "we are not acting in the best interests of our customers or our investors." Murphy concluded by emphasizing that this is a facet of Company business the customer should know about and understand, especially since it affects the monthly electric bill directly through fuel adjustment.

Murphy pointed out that 10 years ago the Company fuel bill for the entire year was \$22.6 million. The year-end 1977 fuel bill is being estimated now at more than 10 times that amount . . . \$258 million. "And," he added, "that's only part of the story."

Planning sessions and critiques are held each week by Murphy and personnel from Accounting, Transportation, Fuel Procurement, Operations, and Production Departments. They look at what fuel is on hand, what mix of oil and natural gas has been burned and what will be burned, where future supplies are coming from, the price which must be paid for these fuels, storage of the fuels, and maintenance schedules of the various generating units to determine which units can be utilized. The meetings take place in the Beaumont Main Office in a conference room, appropriately named, "The Action Room."



"Even our employees  
don't understand it."

J. R. "Pat" Murphy



The end result of these planning sessions is to minimize the charge that shows up on the customer's bill . . . "Fuel Adjustment."

The fuel adjustment clause is not easy to understand for those not directly involved. Basically, it is a means the Company has to recover fuel expenses paid out for generation and power purchases from other utilities above the expense level which has been stipulated by regulating authorities in the base rate of the Company. Even the fuel adjustment multiplier is subject to periodic review and audit in Texas, and must be approved on a month-by-month basis in Louisiana by the Louisiana Public Service Commission. Monthly public hearings are held by the Commission to question each utility on the fuel costs used to calculate the multiplier.

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#### Computed on Base Rate

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Fuel adjustment is computed on the basis of the base fuel rate as established by the last rate increase granted the Company. In Louisiana that base fuel rate is 2.255 mills per residential kilowatt hour used (a mill is 1/1000 of a dollar), or 20.5 cents per million Btu of fuel consumed. The industrial rate is 7.7 mills per kilowatt hour used, or 70 cents per million Btu. (A Btu, British Thermal Unit, is the amount of heat needed to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit.) In

Texas the base fuel rate for residential and industrial customers is 7.9 mills per kilowatt hour used, or 71.82 cents per million Btu of fuel burned.

When fuel expenses surpass the base fuel rate, the difference is taken and this "multiplier" is then used to compute what the fuel adjustment will be on the customer's bill.

Bob Garrot, administrative accountant in Beaumont, explained that for the past several months it has been costing Gulf States approximately 10 to 12.5 mills for fuel per kilowatt hour generated and purchased. So, as an example, if 11 mills is the price of fuel for a Kwh generated or purchased, then the base rate of 7.9 mills (for Texas customers) is subtracted from that 11 mills to obtain the multiplier of 3.1 mills. This 3.1 is then added to each Kwh used by the customer to obtain the fuel adjustment charge. Using this same 11 mill figure, the Louisiana multiplier would be 8.74 mills.

"The reason for the difference between Louisiana and Texas base fuel rates is that Texas has granted the Company a rate increase since the last Louisiana rate relief was granted. Therefore, the fuel adjustment is lower in Texas than the fuel adjustment in Louisiana, but the amount included in the base rate is higher in Texas," Garrot said.

"Because of the current market price of fuel, it's a more realistic base fuel rate upon which to work."

"What most people misunderstand," said Murphy, "is that this fuel adjustment charge is not





additional profit for the Company. It is simply an attempt to recover our additional fuel costs. If the Company were allowed a rate increase sufficient to cover these expenses, there would be no need for fuel adjustment. But it is practically impossible to get such rate increases because the price of fuel does not remain static for very long. It continually fluctuates on a rising trend. This is the reason the fuel adjustment is necessary."

Even with the fuel adjustment clause, GSU does not recover all it pays out for fuel. In Texas the fuel adjustment does manage to recover almost all expenses over the base fuel rate allowed. This is because the adjustment is estimated prior to the period of actual use and payout. "If our estimate of the fuel costs is too high," said Garrot, "the customer is then charged less the following month to make up the difference. At least this way we do recover the money we need to pay our fuel bills immediately, based on the current month's Kwh use."

But Garrot went on to say in Louisiana the fuel adjustment is figured differently. As a result, GSU actually lost money in unrecovered fuel expenses last year.

"In Louisiana we are required to seek recovery of fuel costs at the end of a period of generation rather

than being allowed (as in Texas) to estimate prior to the actual period of generation," said Garrot.

Using the month of August as an example, the Company must wait until September to determine the actual kilowatt hour use and the actual cost of fuel for the month. When this is known and the computations are made, the Company then takes the figures before the Louisiana Public Service Commission. The LPSC then examines the figures and must approve our fuel cost multiplier which was computed using the August load. When we finally bill our Louisiana customers in October for the August fuel costs, all of our expenses are not recovered. This is because we must bill the August multiplier based on the October load. Since August is often a peak load month and October is not, the Kwh use is less and the adjustment falls short of full recovery.

Hypothetically, let's say that the Company's August fuel cost, in excess of the base fuel rate allowed, was \$100 (100,000 mills) and our August load was 10,000 Kwh; then the multiplier for August would be 10 mills per Kwh. The Public Service Commission would approve in September this August multiplier of 10, allowing us to bill that multiplier in October. Since October is cooler than August, our load might be 8,000 Kwh which, when





Top to bottom —  
 Bob Garrot, Accounting  
 Lee Hammack, Production  
 Ken Laiche, Fuel Services

multiplied by the August multiplier of 10, would recover only \$80 (80,000 mills), while the actual expense we had to pay for fuel used was \$100.

If fuel costs remained stable there would be no problem. We could catch up in the late winter months by billing in warmer months. But the price of fuel is not static; it continues to go up and negates any possibility of catching up. "There would really be no problem in Louisiana," said Norman Head, manager of rates, "if fuel costs remained the same month after month and we generated the same Kwh month after month. But we don't. Since fuel prices fluctuate, the adjustment system in Louisiana simply does not allow us to recover what we spend."

Fuel procurement, storage, and transportation are other expense factors that must be determined in the overall fuel cost analysis. Ken Laiche, coordinator-fuel services, explained that oil is the primary factor for the escalation in the Company's fuel costs over the past half decade.

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"In 1976 we burned 219,000,000,000 Btu's of natural gas . . . this year we couldn't get the gas we needed, or wouldn't pay the price."

Ken Laiche

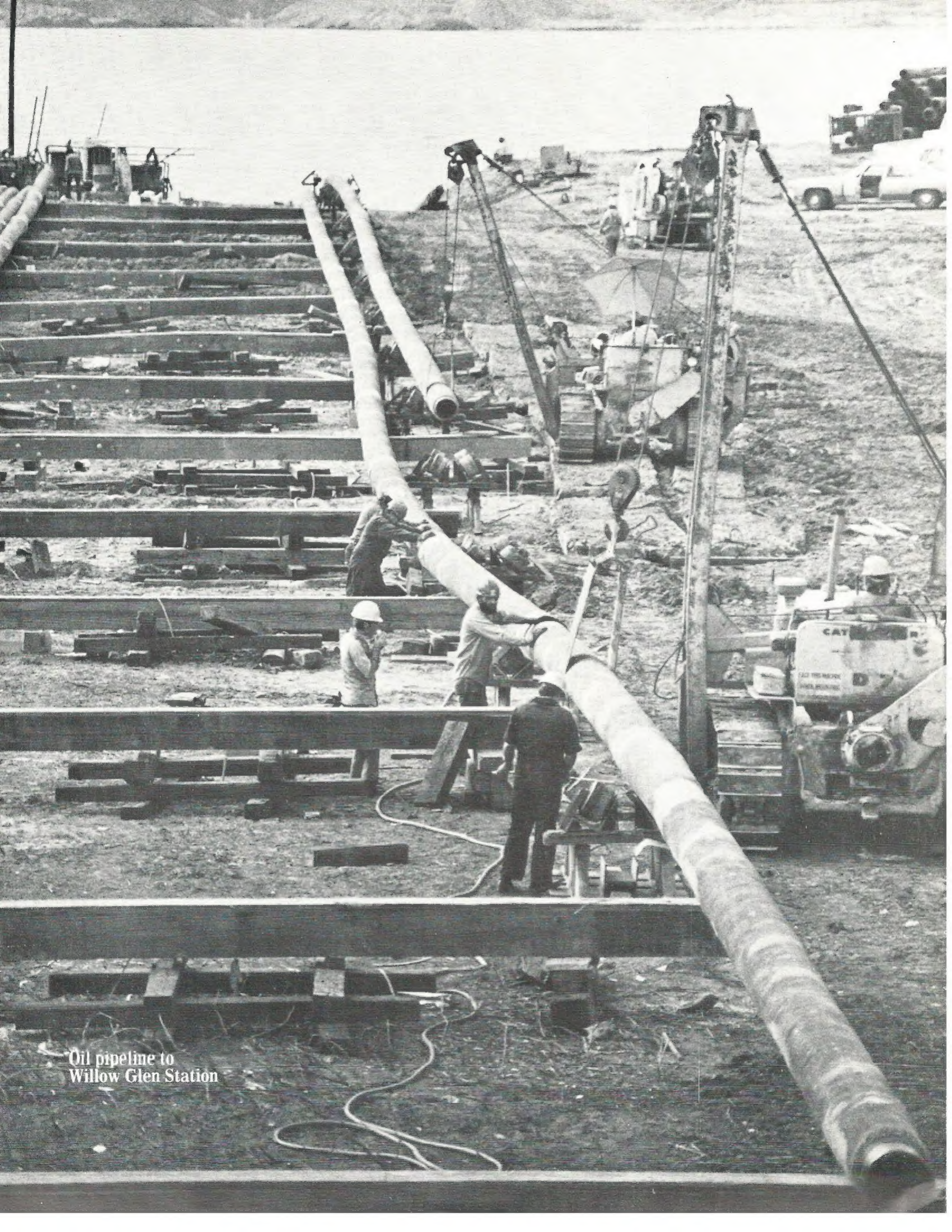
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"When natural gas was thought to be plentiful, we never had any problems. We had contracts that provided GSU with all its needs. Oil was considered only an emergency fuel supplement. But time has changed all that. Since 1973-74, the price of oil has risen dramatically, natural gas supplies have decreased and the price has increased."

Laiche went on to explain that in 1976 GSU burned 219 trillion (219,000,000,000,000) Btus of natural gas. The average sized all-electric home uses approximately 213 million Btus of energy during a year. "This year," said Laiche, "we will burn only 191 trillion, a decrease of 28 trillion Btus. We couldn't get the gas we needed, or wouldn't pay the price. On the other hand, in 1976 we burned only 4.4 million barrels of oil. This year we estimate a year-end figure of 13.8 million barrels for an increase of over three times the previous year's amount." Laiche went on to say that 1977 oil use represents about 29 percent of our energy needs and 61 percent of the 1977 fuel costs.

Because the Company is using more oil each year for generation, physical plant characteristics have had to change. Laiche explained that oil storage tanks have had to be constructed at Willow Glen Station and Nelson Station. Pipelines have been constructed to carry the oil, and fuel oil docking facilities have been built to unload the oil. The increased need for oil has also necessitated the conversion of some boilers to burn No. 6 fuel oil. These boilers were initially constructed to burn gas,





Oil pipeline to  
Willow Glen Station



and the conversion is an expensive, but necessary, procedure.

Adding to the problem were: some existing gas contracts that were not honored and the subsequent suit against United Gas Pipeline to recover additional expenses incurred by Gulf States as a result of their contractual default. This resulted in negotiations of new short-term contracts at much higher prices and the oil acquisitions that are necessary to meet present generating demands.

Laiche said that finding the oil doesn't necessarily mean Gulf States is going to get that oil. Negotiations for a "right price" are most important. "We can't get all the oil we'll presently need without much effort if we don't care what we pay for it. In the fluctuating oil market, prices are normally lowest during the summer months. This is when we try to buy enough to replenish our oil inventory. But, even during this lower price period

we buy for a given period," said Hammack. "We don't want to buy more oil than we can efficiently use. The best mix allows us to generate throughout the year while managing our fuel mix in such a way as to keep the fuel costs as stable as possible. The lower our fuel costs, the lower the fuel adjustment is going to be for our customers."

Hammack said the whole fuel planning process is designed to shave the peaks and valleys from fluctuating fuel prices so that the costs per kilowatt hour of generation are as even as possible from month to month.

"This is really very important," said Domino, "In the fuel business, based on our required inventory to insure a reliable fuel supply, the fluctuation of just one dollar per barrel of oil is literally worth more than a million dollars to our customers."

In spite of increasing fuel costs, Gulf States customers have a real advantage. Historically and



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**"There would be no problem in Louisiana if fuel cost remained stable and we generated the same Kwh . . . but it doesn't, and we don't . . ."**

**Norman Head**

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we are not just going out to buy oil for the asking price. We request bids from various suppliers for oil and we keep looking until we find someone who will sell it at the lowest price."

Leroy Hammack, production manager, and Joe Domino, systems engineer, have the task of determining where the oil and gas are going to be burned and in what amounts. They keep track of unit availability and coordinate a fuel mix burn that results in the most economical use of the fuels.

Each day Domino reviews a fuel summary status sheet which shows fuel cost estimates, daily fuel costs, average monthly fuel costs, inventory status of fuels, and delivery schedules for future and existing fuels. These figures are analyzed weekly by the fuel committee, and production plans for the immediate future of our generation and fuel requirements are discussed and formulated.

The current fuel mix question is ongoing. "Unit availability plays a major role in what types of fuels

today, our Company has a fuel cost which is about two-thirds of the national utility average and is currently about one-half of the replacement market value. This means if Gulf States customers had to pay the market price for fuel used to generate electricity, as they do for everything else, their electric bill would be twice as large.

That's our fuel story. The fuel adjustment charge is an indicator of the times at hand and a strong reminder that, while Gulf States must pay its own fuel bill, there is a tremendous amount of effort being exerted by many Gulf Staters to keep this charge as stable and as low as possible. This effort pays off for the Company, the customer, and the investor.



# GSU NEWS

## First Class

Sabine Station recently graduated its first class of Basic Power Plant Operations, phase one of a two part course designed to familiarize employees assigned to power plants.

As part of an overall program called Power Plant Technology, the course consists of 14 weeks of classroom and practical training over a two year period. Students learn power plant concepts, operation and maintenance of mechanical and electrical systems, plus an understanding of the thermodynamics cycle which will aid them in improving plant heat rate and efficiency.

Each student receives a diploma upon satisfactory completion of the course.



**FIRST CLASS** — The first class to successfully complete "Basic Power Plant Operations" was graduated this summer. First row, left to right, Lenard Idlebird, Jim Moss (Sabine Station plant superintendent), Dan Dumas and Ron Lamb (instructor). Standing, Daryl Wilson, Glen Ray, Floyd Hebert, Kearny Gravis, Bill Moore, James Braus and Owen Hebert.



**TAKES TITLE**—Bobby Pope, storeroom assistant in Baton Rouge, fired a 73 to take first place in the championship flight of the annual employees golf tournament held this summer. Pope edged out J. R. Braud (74) and Bill Barksdale (75). The tourney was held at Sharon Meadows in Ethel.

## Named Chairman

Oliver P. Stockwell, Lake Charles attorney and a former member of the GSU board of directors, has been named Chairman-LSU Board of Supervisors.

Stockwell had been the board's vice chairman for the past year, and replaces W. T. Brown of New Orleans.

Stockwell is a senior partner in the law firm of Stockwell, Sievert, Viccellio, Clements and Shaddock. He is president of the Louisiana State Law Institute and a director of the Lakeside National Bank of Lake Charles.

## President EPRI

Floyd L. Culler, Jr., deputy director of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, has been selected to be the next president and chief executive officer of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI).

Chauncey Starr, the founding president, will become vice chairman of the board of directors on a full-time basis.

## The Graduate



**COMPLETES COURSE**—Bill Richard, left, manager of the Lake Charles Division, presents Joe R. Havens (utility line foreman), with his diploma signifying successful completion of the International Correspondence School management study course.



## On The Wall



**NICE MOMENTO**—A retirement party was given in honor of George Geiger, Beaumont T&D, and with the party came a "Certified Certificate" of friendship from his many friends and co-workers. There was also a check for \$200 which didn't hurt. After "Roasting" George, everyone came forward to wish him well. (from Carolyn Motl)

## Studies Co-Generation



**INTERNATIONAL VISITORS**—A group of European industrial representatives were given a tour and briefing of co-generation as provided by Louisiana Station to several large industrial customers in the north Baton Rouge area. Charles Glass, vice president-Marketing, was on hand with Plant Superintendent Doug Watkins to familiarize the visitors with the plant and its operations. Officials from Exxon and Ethyl also participated in the visit. The visitors were brought to this country by ERDA's Office of Conservation to study energy efficient methods of U. S. industry. One item of interest was the Company's energy research home project in Baton Rouge. Harriet Babin, Consumer Services, explained the project. With Harriet are members of the international group, left to right, F. Graaf and K. Nater of the Netherlands, Wm. Maier, Germany, P. Bos, U. S. Resource Planning Association, and R. Jank of Germany.

## THRIFT PLAN

Type of Stock	Number of Shares	Total Cost	Average Cost per Share
Common	7,667	104,462.92	13.625
\$4.40 Preferred	40	2,258.40	56.460

The Trustee deposited \$98,267.37 with the Savings Department of the First Security National Bank.

Number Shares	Per Share Price	Total Cost
2,958	13 5/8	\$40,302.79
4,709	13 5/8	64,160.13
7,667		104,462.92
<b>\$4.40 Preferred Stock</b>		
40	55 1/2	2,258.40

## Gets Diploma



**GRADUATE**—Bill Richard, left, Lake Charles Division manager, presents two diplomas to Melton D. Byrd, line foreman, for his successful completion of International Correspondence School courses. Byrd completed Modern Management and Personal Analysis for Decision Making. The presentation took place during a monthly safety meeting.



# Friends Aid Co-Worker

by Darlene Faries  
Sabine Station

Trouble is the true test of friendship, and for Oddie Powell (2nd class repairman at Toledo Bend Dam) and his family, Sabine Station and its employees will always occupy a special place in their hearts.

In August of this year the Powells lost everything. Fire completely gutted their trailer home. Fortunately no one was home. Oddie was in Beaumont playing in a softball tournament and the wife and children were visiting relatives. They didn't know about the fire until they returned home to find it destroyed.

The situation looked pretty bad. Renza was expecting their third child in two months, much to the excitement of five year old Betty Jean and two year old Stacy Lei. But suddenly the Powells had no place to live, their clothes and furnishings were gone. News of the trouble spread and it didn't take long for their friends to react.

Sabine Station employees, where Powell worked before being transferred to Toledo Bend, started a fund raising drive on their own to help out. The Ancient Free & Accepted Masonic Lodge No. 1345 joined in, and before long the Powells had clothes, cooking utensils, appliances and money to help them over the emergency. Sabine Station employees and Elliot Gurnee of AF&AM collected over \$1 thousand in cash. In addition to that, Glenn Ray at Sabine Station started a separate drive to replace the shotgun that was lost in the fire.

Today, with the new baby due at any time, the Powells have a new home between Jasper and Newton, and things are looking up. They will have quite a story to tell the baby . . . about friends.



**TOTAL LOSS**—Oddie Powell and his family returned home to find their home a complete loss. Fire, caused by faulty wiring, broke out and completely destroyed their trailer home, along with all their belongings. But thanks to the efforts of his friends, Oddie, Renza and their two children managed to survive and have started life anew supported by the knowledge that their friends are true friends indeed.



**GOT IT STARTED**—Glenn Ray came up with the idea to replace the "favored" shotgun of Powell's that was destroyed. Ray beat the bushes for contributions and had little problem in finding enough support to make the campaign successful.



**NEW GUN**—Mike Griffin, left, presents Oddie Powell with a new shotgun to replace one that was lost in the fire that destroyed their home. This was just one of many gifts the Sabine Station employees and others gave the Powells following the near tragedy.



**FRIENDS INDEED**—Some of the people who came to the aid of the Powells were, left to right, Robert Breaux, Mike Griffin, Thor Homme, Elliot Gurnee (AF&AM), Don Rice and James Sparks.



## Don Crawford Back To The South

W. Donham Crawford, heir apparent to take over as chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the Company next spring, is an example of the American success story . . . a boy who came out of the rolling hills of central Arkansas to head the principal association of this country's investor-owned electric utilities.

Floyd R. Smith, in making the announcement of Crawford's decision to join GSU, said "We are most fortunate to obtain the services of Don Crawford. He has demonstrated excellent capabilities in his extensive experience both as a leader of the industry at the national level, and as an executive of operating utilities."

A native of Little Rock, Crawford attended the University of Arkansas, but later won appointment to the Naval Academy in Annapolis. He graduated in 1947 and was commissioned an ensign in the U. S. Navy. Following two and one half years of service, Crawford spent four years with the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission's Savannah River Operations Office.

Crawford and his wife, Colene, will make the move to Beaumont after the process of finding a successor for the presidency of EEI is accomplished. The Crawfords have three children, Carol, 27; Bruce, 25; and Phillip, 22.



## Division of Arts

Mrs. James P. Towers, wife of the assistant to the vice president in Baton Rouge, has become the first elected Chairman of the new Louisiana State Arts Council, a 17-member state commission appointed by Governor Edwin Edwards.

While Jim is well-known in state government as GSU's lobbyist, Peg is widely known by state and federal officials for her leadership in the promotion and creation of an arts component for the State of Louisiana, and similar to state government agencies in other states. Under Louisiana's new reorganization plan for state government, the long-needed agency — the Division of the Arts — has been instituted within the newly established State Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

The Louisiana State Arts Council functions as the advisory body to this

Division as well as being responsible for the administration and allocation of National Endowment for the Arts federal/state arts funds in Louisiana.

Peg brings to the state position a background of service on numerous civic and cultural boards some of which include serving as founder and first president of the statewide Association for Louisiana Arts and Artists; founder and vice-president of the Arts and Humanities Council of Greater Baton Rouge, the first community arts council in the state; Chairman of the Junior League Puppet and Children's Theatre Committees; and currently chairing the Magnet School Committee of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board which originated the highly successful academic and arts high school in Baton Rouge.

## Memorable Month

by Carolyn Motl  
Beaumont Service Center

September was a memorable month for Albert Baird, operating superintendent of the Beaumont Division; he celebrated a birthday, and then retirement after 41 years with the company.

First came his 65th birthday complete with several cakes and many good wishes for the retirement he has earned. In on the birthday party festivities were Flo Strawther, Linda Smith, Jerry Terry, Carolyn Motl, Lee Castilaw, Rose Ann Johnson, JoAnne Landry and Joyce Smith. What 65 year old could ask for more.

Following this came several retirement parties. A plaque with everyone's name on it was presented, along with a corsage and a little spending money to help the Bairds start off their retirement in New Mexico. This party was followed by another one held at a local restaurant.

Ward McCurtain, Beaumont division manager, was the emcee for this event which featured a surprise visit from Baird's son who flew in from Boston to be with his dad on this event.

Special guests included Floyd Smith, Norman Lee and Jack Kirkland. Following the words of praise, gifts were presented which included a quart of ink (along with pen and pencil set to go with it), a 17 volume biblical reference book set, a biblical dictionary, a microwave oven and a sketch by the Company artist, Ken Haynie, of Baird taken from a picture of Baird in his early days with the Company.

## Whitmire, M.D.

Andrew G. Whitmire, son of Dalton S. Whitmire, meter reader, Madisonville, received his Doctor of Medicine Degree from the University of Texas Medical School in Houston on June 11. Dr. Whitmire is a 1970 graduate of Madisonville High School.

He attended Texas A&M University, where he was a member of the National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and

graduated Magna Cum Laude in zoology. He entered the U. of Texas Med School in June, 1974.

Dr. Whitmire began his internship at Providence and Hillcrest hospitals in Waco, July 1. He has been accepted for one of three positions in the Ophthalmology Residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, starting in July of 1978. (from Jean Tinsley)





**CHAMPIONS**—(front row left to right) Gary Kramer, Mike Sealy, Bob Dowies, Bob Garrot, Erwin Zoch. Back row left to right, Mike Bartholomew, Tommy Evans, Calvin Jaetzold, Wes Smith, Bob Whaley, Jeff Ewers, Ron Lamb, Mike Chapman and Mike Yennie.



**SECOND PLACE**—(front row left to right) Steve Reela, Howard Williams and Elvin Smith. Standing left to right, George Sanchez, John Cowart, Martin Telger, Tommy Weeks, John Page, Jimmy Young, Greg Buck, Wendy Nance and coach Lloyd Bell. Not shown are Jerry Skiles, Pete Mitchell, Mike Jones and Paul Hudgins.



**THIRD PLACE**—(front row left to right) James Cook, Wayne Broussard, Mike Giffin (coach), Oddie Powell, John Cole. Back row, Gerry Wilbanks, Bo Holtzclaw, Robert Breaux, John Knoden, Lynn Bouillion, Thor Homme and Owen Hebert.



**FOURTH PLACE**—(front row left to right) Mike Henson, Bill Compton, Duane Abshire, Roger Paris (coach), Randy Hickman and Gary Fontenot. Back row, Red Saltzman, Don Leland, Kenneth Duhon, Gerald Fontenot and Donald Cooke.

## Main Office Champs

One of the fastest growing athletic events in which employees participate is the annual GSU Slow Pitch Softball Tournament. "And it's getting bigger every year," said Joe Russian, chairman.

The tournament this year actually took two months to play due to rain, but when the dust and the mud cleared, the defending champions, Beaumont Main Office, was on top the heap via a 7-2 victory over the crew from Beaumont Line.

Eleven teams representing four divisions were on hand at the excellent, nine diamond, Beaumont athletic complex on college street to slug it out. The double elimination tourney began in July, but was rained out after four teams had been eliminated. Resumed in August, the Beaumont Main Office team composed of Gary Kramer, Mike Sealy, Bob Dowies,

Bob Garrot, Erwin Zoch, Mike Bartholomew, Tommy Evans, Calvin Jaetzold, Wes Smith, Bob Whaley, Jeff Ewers, Ron Lamb, Mike Chapman and big Mike Yennie, made up for an earlier defeat by besting the Beaumont Line team. Beaumont Main Office had waltzed through the tourney unbeaten until the Line Department blasted the eventual champs 26-8, but revenge and the championship came in the re-match.

Russian, who has worked hard over the past several years to get the tournament off the ground, said he was pleased at the turnout. "We had something like 200 ball players this year with teams from Conroe, Port Arthur, Lake Charles, Orange and Beaumont, I would really like to see what kind of talent Lafayette and Baton Rouge could provide. Maybe we can get some of

them over next year."

Russian went on to say that he hoped the tournament could be played in Lake Charles next year so that Baton Rouge and Lafayette could participate. "It would be a good location, it's about in the center of the system and about an equal drive from Baton Rouge or Conroe."

Russian pointed out that a tournament such as this is really a family outing for many of the players. Whole families come to watch and picnic and play games while the athletes do battle on the diamond.

"We think we've got a good thing going with the tournament," Russian said. "Each year seems to bring on more teams, and better teams. I'm already looking forward to next year."



# CONTACT: Questions & Answers

- Q. How much lower are REA rates than GSU's?**  
**A.** This varies from REA to REA and some are higher than GSU. Much depends on how much they pay for the power they purchase. REA's generally do not have the Federal income tax and other tax burdens of an investor-owned company such as GSU.
- Q. Why does GSU charge for service they used not to, such as reconnects?**  
**A.** The rates placed in effect in Texas in July, 1976, included a schedule of miscellaneous charges. This schedule established charges for collection fees, connection fees, reconnection fees, NSF check fees and fees for temporary service. A provision for collection and re-connection fee was included in the terms and conditions applicable to electric service. The \$7 charge for new service applications was an attempt to offset the costs associated with such services. Previously, such costs were included in the rate structure and a customer paid for such cost whether he received the service or not. The "specific charge for specific service" approach is another move toward cost justified for each class of service.
- Q. What is the difference in cost to the customer between 3,000 Kwh in Louisiana and Texas?**  
**A.** Residential bill for 3,000 Kwh (no electric water heater) for September, 1977:  
 Texas \$98.23 (plus sales tax, 4% state, 1% city).  
 Louisiana \$89.79 (no sales tax in Louisiana).
- Q. Why doesn't GSU promote smaller homes?**  
**A.** The company doesn't feel it should tell a potential homeowner what size home to buy, since that is usually determined by income, size of family, etc. The company does promote conservation, energy-efficient electric appliances and weatherizing, so that the customer will save energy and money to help us put off adding expensive generating units.
- Q. How much does GSU spend on advertising annually? Why?**  
**A.** GSU's 1977 advertising budget is approximately \$250,000, very moderate considering the area we serve. The company advertises to keep customers informed of such things as why bills are going up, how to conserve energy and save money, why certain appliances are more efficient than others. Surveys show the public needs and wants such information and we have an obligation to do so.
- Q. How long will nuclear power plants last?**  
**A.** The expected life is 30 to 40 years.
- Q. How much of a rate increase is delegated to each class of customer?**  
**A.** GSU's previous rate increases have been basically a flat percentage increase effective to each class of customer. An exception was the April, 1975 rate increase that affected only 70 large power customers. In the future we will be looking at cost of service among other things and the increases may not be equal to all classes of customers. The utility commissions, of course, have the major say so in this report.
- Q. Do we embed fuel cost in rate increase and then start with a new rate from "0" base? If so, is this procedure done to generate profit on fuel cost?**  
**A.** We have in the past started a fuel adjustment with "0" base at the time of a rate change. No profit is involved. We will remove all of the fuel from the base in our next rate charge per commission requirement.
- Q. Why is the load expected to drop in 1984?**  
**A.** SLEMCO is then going to switch to Cajun Electric Power Company, relieving us of this less than desirable load.
- Q. Why don't we look for cheaper oil?**  
**A.** We do. Is to the customer and company's best interest to purchase as cheaply as possible. The company must appear before the Louisiana Public Service Commission each month to describe fuel charges for that month.
- Q. How long will coal reserves last?**  
**A.** Geologists and other experts predict from 300 to 500 years' supply.
- Q. Why take high bidder and then settle for poor results?**  
**A.** This is not company policy.
- Q. Is it worthwhile to sell capital assets and then buy later at higher costs? Does this difference affect lower interest rates on AA bids compared to A?**  
**A.** The decision to sell certain assets, such as uranium and components of Nelson 5 (coal), was made because the company needs capital now to continue construction and would not need the assets for several years. The unit sale also relieved us of making large payments for the components. The company has set high priority on trying to retain an AA bond rating, so feels that the possibility of paying out more money for another unit later is worthwhile.
- Q. What are the salaries of executives in Varibus?**  
**A.** Answered previously. All officers of Varibus are company employees and they make no additional salary.



# Bomb On Board

High over the Pacific Ocean, on a Western Airlines' flight to Hawaii, a game to guess the arrival time at the "point of no return" was suddenly interrupted by a sobering message from the captain . . . "Ladies and gentlemen, we may be carrying a bomb on board. We are beginning emergency procedures immediately."







"We were all busy playing a game. We were trying to guess when, what hour and minute, our plane would arrive at the point of no return somewhere over the Pacific between California and Hawaii, when our pilot made the announcement that there might be a bomb on board."

The first indication that anything might be a little different about Western Airlines flight 583 to Hawaii came at approximately 10:15 a.m., a little over an hour after leaving San Jose. The plan began to make a turn back toward the way it came.

"Ladies and gentlemen, this is the Captain. In case you haven't noticed we've initiated a turn to take us back to California. We have received two calls at our terminal that we may be carrying a bomb aboard the plane. We are beginning emergency procedures immediately."

#### Quite An Adventure

Among the 45 passengers aboard the B-720 were Cheryl Faye Carrell, executive stenographer at GSU and her mother, Louise Boyce of Sunnyvale, Calif.

"Looking back on that now," said Cheryl, "it was quite an adventure. But I don't mind telling you I was scared at the time."

The story has a happy ending. The plane landed safely at San Francisco International airport and evacuation was carried out with safety, efficiency, and with only minor injuries to several passengers while sliding down the emergency chutes. "The pilot, crew and stewardesses were fantastic during the whole emergency," said Cheryl. "They were extremely calm and went about their jobs in a highly professional manner which reassured us all. The whole emergency situation seemed very well coordinated between the plane and the ground."

#### Almost Ditched

Though none of the passengers realized it at the time, a decision to ditch the aircraft into the Pacific was very nearly given. "I talked with the pilot later during the day at the airport and he said that if one more phone call had been received the plane would have been ordered to ditch at sea. It would have been assumed at that point that there was no doubt about a bomb, and Western Airlines would not have risked the lives of its passengers or crew by trying to make it back to San Francisco."

Cheryl went on to say that all the passengers remained outwardly calm. There was no panic. "When we made our turn back to California the stewardesses collected all our shoes and put them in a blanket. They then passed out air sickness bags to collect our wallets, jewelry and loose items such as change. They selected several young men and assigned them to man the emergency chute exits and generally had the situation well in hand by the time we were approaching the airport."

One of the more remarkable moments Cheryl remembers is the fact that the plane was able to stop as quickly as it did when the wheels touched the runway. "I thought airliners used a lot of runway, when we landed the pilot did something and the plane nearly stopped dead in its tracks."

She remembers looking out of the window and seeing five or six fire engines, and at least eight ambulances and more emergency vehicles lining the holding area. From the time the exits were opened until the time the last of the crew left the ship, it took only three minutes to empty the plane. Coast Guard helicopters had followed the plane in over the water and hovered nearby. "We really didn't have the time to panic," said Cheryl. "I remember hearing the stewardess by our emergency

#### Efficient Evacuation

chute order us to 'sit, jump, sit, jump, sit, jump.' And just that fast we sat, jumped (slid) down the chute. Firemen at the bottom would catch us, stand us up and order us to follow a third fireman who was leading us away from the plane. It all went very fast. The whole evacuation of the plane was done with tremendous efficiency. Western Airlines is certainly to be commended, as are the emergency personnel of San Francisco International."

Once everyone was off the plane all the passengers were taken to an emergency clinic at the airport and checked. Food was brought in, with plenty of coffee, and plans were made to get another plane ready. Several hours later all the passengers of flight 583 were back on board another airplane and on their way to Hawaii once again.

"It was quite an adventure, but I don't want to go through that again thank you."



# Congratulations Orange District

2,533,185 Man-Hours  
worked without disabling injury  
1957-1977 (19 years 9 months)



**DISTRICT SAFETY RECORD** — The Orange District of Gulf States Utilities Company was honored recently for the establishment of a new safety record of 19 years nine months without a disabling injury on the job. The record represents over 2.5 million man-hours of labor in a high risk industry and said Beaumont Division Manager Ward McCurtain, "Is a record of which to be justifiably proud." On hand for the presentation of the award were, left to right, Mike Durham, Safety Director of GSU; J. S. "Rudy" Rougeau, Orange Distribution Supervisor; Bob Parsons, Orange lineman; McCurtain, and Jim Stelly, Orange District Superintendent.



# RETIREMENTS



**Benard Wiltz**



**Austin J. Mary**



**Gandy Hall**



**Melvin Garman**



**Henry Buckalew**

**Bernard Wiltz**, appliance repairman in Lafayette T&D, retired Oct. 1, after 32 years of service.

Wiltz began his career in 1945 as a helper in Lafayette. The St. Martinville native became appliance repairman helper in 1946 and progressed through various classifications until his assignment this year in the T&D Substation Department.

Wiltz is married to the former May Belle Duplantis of Houma, La., and the couple has three children, Mrs. Donald Gonsoulin of Shreveport, Bernard, Jr., of Broussard, La., and Melain.

His plans for retirement include all the traveling he can manage.

**Austin J. Mary**, assistant to the senior vice president-System Engineering, retired Nov. 1, after 42 years of service.

Mary, native of Baton Rouge, was employed in 1935 after receiving his master's degree in electrical engineering from Louisiana State University. He served as engineer in the gas and T&D departments and transferred to Beaumont in 1955 as office engineer. He was promoted to superintendent of planning in 1956, and director of system services in 1965. After a promotion to director of engineering planning in 1967 he was named assistant to the senior vice president in 1969.

Mary is a four-year veteran of the U. S. Army during World War II, and is married to the former Dorothy Julian of New Orleans. The couple has two children, Martin Mary of El Paso and Jimmy Mary of Beaumont.

Mary is a senior member of the International Electronic and Electrical Engineers, a registered engineer in Louisiana and past commander and

educational officer of the Beaumont Power Squadron.

**Melvin C. Garman**, senior engineering assistant in T&D engineering in Jennings, and mayor of the city, retired from the Company to devote full time to his mayoral duties.

Garman has been an employee for the past 37 years. He began his career in 1940 as a groundman in Jennings. He progressed to substation operator and clerk in 1941 and in 1943 transferred to Baton Rouge as auxiliary operator. He progressed through various classifications and in 1945 went back to Jennings as turbine engineer. He became an engineering assistant in 1947 and senior engineering assistant in 1950.

In July of this year Garman became the 26th mayor of Jennings, and the first native son to be elected to the top city office. He is a member of the Jefferson Davis Parish Municipal Association and the Louisiana Municipal Association. He is also a member of the board of the Southwestern Louisiana Law Enforcement Association, and the Jefferson Davis Community Action Association. He has served as a member of the Jefferson Davis Parish Police Jury and was that association's president from 1973-1975. He was re-elected without opposition in 1976 but resigned the post when elected mayor.

The mayor and Mrs. Garman, the former Bennie Love Allen of Meigs, Ga., have two children, Mrs. Adele Horton of Ruston, and M. C. Garman of Ft. Worth, Tex.

**Gandy G. Hall** retired Nov. 1, after 37 years of service, the last seven years as

superintendent of Neches Station in Beaumont.

Hall came to GSU in 1940 and worked in various T&D assignments including substation foreman in Navasota. He transferred to Neches Station in 1952 as electrical maintenance supervisor, and served in variety of capacities until his promotion to plant superintendent in 1970.

He is married to the former Helen Barrett of San Antonio, and the couple has one daughter, Jeanette Hall Wood. Mrs. Wood is becoming quite well known in her own right as a professional singer of Opera. She is a Fullbright Scholar, has studied voice at home and abroad in Germany.

**Henry T. Buckalew**, district accounting supervisor in Lafayette, retired Oct. 1, after 31 years of service.

Buckalew began his career in 1946 when employed as a helper in the T&D line department at Lafayette. He became an apprentice in a short time, and a lineman in 1947. He progressed through various classifications over the years including assignments in the service department. In 1960 he was transferred to Division Accounting and promoted to supervisor.

A native of Kelly, La., Buckalew is a three year veteran of the U. S. Army during World War II in the South Pacific. He is married to the former Frances Girouard of Broussard, La., and the couple has two children, Mrs. Larry Mitts of Sulphur, and Robert L. of Lafayette.

He is an active member of the Hub City Rifle and Pistol Club and served as treasurer of the "See-Saws" Square Dance Club.



# PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



Loughmiller

**Arden Loughmiller**, operating supervisor of T&D operations in Baton Rouge, has been transferred to Port Arthur and promoted to operating superintendent.

Loughmiller was employed in 1961 as an engineer. Following a military leave of absence with the U. S. Army, he was assigned to T&D engineering in Beaumont. In 1965 he was promoted to industrial engineer in Division Marketing in Beaumont, and in 1969 was promoted to labor relations coordinator in the Personnel Department. He was transferred to Baton Rouge in 1972 and promoted to marketing superintendent, and in 1976 transferred to T&D as operating supervisor.

A native of Vernon, Tex., Loughmiller is a 1961 graduate of Texas A&M University with a degree in electrical engineering. He is married to the former Julia Suzane Robuck of Mexia, Tex., and the couple has two children, Mike and Melissa.



Englebrecht

**Emmitt C. Van Eman**, lineman first class in Beaumont T&D, has been promoted to utility foreman.

Van Eman, a native of Elima, Tex., has been an employee since 1955 when hired as a helper in Beaumont T&D Substation Department. He transferred to the Line Department in 1956 and has progressed through various classification in both line and service areas.

"Van," as he is called by friends, is a veteran of the U. S. Air Force and is married to the former Emma Lou Kirkland of Lufkin, Tex. The couple has three children, Paul, Mrs. David Longbottom (Janet), and Karen Kay.

Van is active in Little League baseball and served as the area's league president as well as an umpire for two years.



Van Eman

**John W. Conley**, operating superintendent of the Port Arthur Division, has been transferred to Beaumont and promoted to operating superintendent of the Beaumont Division.

A native of Melville, La., Conley has been an employee for 19 years. He has held assignments in Beaumont, Lake Charles and Baton Rouge before being promoted to the Port Arthur post in 1974. He is a graduate of Louisiana State University with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering in 1958.

A four year veteran of the U. S. Navy, he is married to the former Mary Janney of Baton Rouge, and the couple has four children, Cathy, Judy, Jay and Pat.

He is an active member of the Port Arthur Lions Club, the Chamber of Commerce, Port Arthur Electrical Examining Board and the Utility Coordinating Council.

**Frances S. Englebrecht**, training assistant in the Personnel Department in Beaumont, has been promoted to coordinator-personnel development.

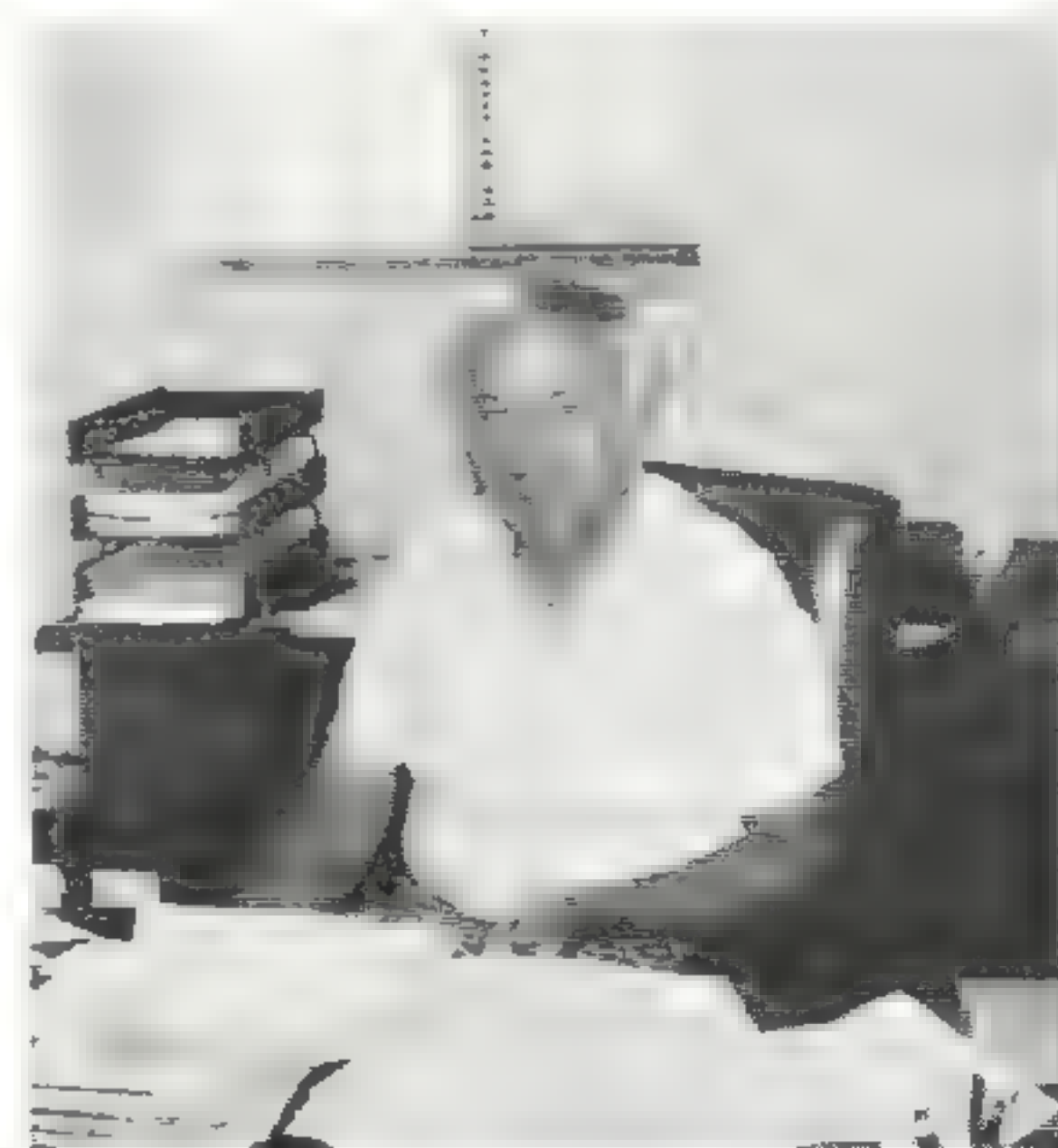
A native of San Diego, Calif., Englebrecht is a 23-year veteran of the Company. She was employed in 1954 as a departmental clerk in Personnel, and was promoted to executive stenographer in 1956. She became executive secretary in 1957, and was promoted to training assistant in 1974.

She is married to Henry W. Englebrecht, Jr., of College Station, and the couple has two children, Paige, 14, and Darrin, age nine.

Active in professional organizations, Englebrecht is a member of the Southwest Utilities Training Directors; president of the Sabine Society for Training and Development (ASTD), and chairman of the 1977 YMCA-ASTD Management Seminar Committee.



Conley



Knobloch



**Ralph "Mickey" Knobloch**, senior purchasing agent, River Bend Station, has been transferred to the Material Services Department and promoted to coordinator-material services. He will continue to remain at the River Bend Station site with responsibilities for all material services functions for the Baton Rouge area as well as River Bend.

A native of Beaumont, Knobloch was employed by the Company in 1956 following his graduation from Lamar University with a degree in history. He has held various positions in the customer accounts, general accounts and purchasing departments before being transferred to Baton Rouge in 1963 as supervisor of credit and collections. He was promoted to purchasing agent in 1967, and senior purchasing agent for River Bend Station.

Knobloch is a veteran of the Army Air Force, with service during World War II. He is married to the former Rosemary Hunter, and the couple has two daughters, Kathryn Patrice and Staci Michel. He is the first certified purchasing agent in GSU, a member of the National Association of Purchasing Management and the Baton Rouge Traffic Club.

Three promotions have been announced at Sabine Station by J. E. Moss, superintendent.

**John M. Cole**, mechanical maintenance foreman, has been promoted to mechanical maintenance supervisor; **Chester O. Draper**, test maintenance foreman at Neches Station, has been transferred to Sabine Station and promoted to electrical supervisor, and **Clabe C. Tuttle**, master repairman, has been promoted to mechanical maintenance foreman.

Cole, employed in 1964 as mechanic's

helper, is a native of Wiergate, Tex. He progressed through various classifications and was named mechanical maintenance foreman in 1974, after service at Lewis Creek Station.

Cole is a veteran of the U. S. Navy and is married to the former Joy R. Meads of Vidor. The couple has one daughter, Judy Ann.

**Draper** is a 15-year veteran of the Company. He was employed in 1962 at Neches Station as a mechanic's helper. He became a test technician in 1964, and master test technician in 1970 when transferred to Lewis Creek Station. In 1972 he transferred back to Neches Station and was promoted to test maintenance foreman.

Draper is a native of Beaumont, and attended Port Arthur Business College.

**Tuttle** was employed in 1961 as a mechanic's helper at Sabine. He progressed through various classifications and was promoted to master repairman in 1976.

A native of Floyd, Ky., Tuttle is a veteran of the 1st Armored Division, U. S. Army, and is married to the former Gloria Jordan of Center, Tex. The couple has three children, Jim, David and Janet.

**Glenn Michael "Mike" Sealy**, employee benefits representative in Personnel Department, has been promoted to coordinator-employee benefits.

Sealy is a four year employee hired in 1973 as administrative accountant. He was named internal auditor a month later, and in 1974 was promoted to labor relations representative. He became personnel representative in January.

A native of Clute, Tex., Sealy graduated from the University of Texas in 1973 (cum laude) with a bachelor's degree in business



Cole



Draper



Anderson



Sealy



Tuttle



administration. He had previously earned an Associate Arts degree from Brazosport College.

He is married to the former Sharon West of Clute, and the couple has one son, Jared Michael, born last year.

**Warren W. Anderson**, general maintenance supervisor at Sabine Station, has been transferred to the Power Plant Construction Department and named mechanical inspector. He will continue to remain at Sabine Station.

Anderson, a native of Seneca, Mo., is a 28-year veteran of the Company. He attended Brown University in Siloam Springs, Ark., and studied mechanical engineering. As a veteran of the Army Air Force in World War II, Anderson earned the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with four clusters and Purple Heart as bombardier-navigator. He became a prisoner of war for four months after his plane was shot down over Belgium. He retired in 1946 with the rank of captain with physical disability.

Anderson is married to the former Leona Richmond of Aurora, Ill. The couple has two sons, Warren and Carl.

**Charles C. Petry**, test technician first class at Neches Station, has been promoted to test foreman.

A native of Indian Bayou, La., Petry was employed in 1962 as operator's helper. He became auxiliary operator in 1964 and test technician in 1966.

The U. S. Army veteran attended Lamar University in technical arts, and is married to the former Jerry Faye Glawson of Pineland, Tex. The couple has two children, Chuch and Tara.

**Bert E. Rogers**, supervisor of Records Management, has been promoted to

director of General Services, the new name of what was called Records Management.

Other organizational changes related to General Services include **Sam Gallier**, former supervisor of Duplicating and Photography, promoted to supervisor of Office Services in charge of reproduction, office supply, PBX, stenographic and mail services.

**Lettica B. Henderson**, section head, promoted to supervisor of Records Management, and responsible for all record files and filing systems with the exception of nuclear records.

**Gulah W. Marshall**, senior departmental clerk, promoted to section head and responsible for mail, courier and addressing services.

Rogers has been employed by the Company since 1960 when he joined the General Accounting Department. He was transferred to Purchasing in 1963, and in 1964 was promoted to financial administration coordinator. In 1972 he was promoted to supervisor of Records Management.

A native of Beaumont, Rogers is married to the former Sandra Gray of Nederland. Sandra is executive secretary, Financial Services. Rogers has three children, Bert, Jr., Rebecca and Derron.

Rogers is an Army veteran and a member of the American Records Management Association, and the National Micrographics Association.

Gallier has been with the Company since 1959 when employed as an engineering helper. In 1960 he was promoted to engineering assistant, and promoted in 1965 to section head-duplicating and photocopy. In 1967 he was promoted to supervisor.

Gallier is married to the former Dorothy Durham of Woodville, and the couple has three children, Sam, Jr., James and Sheri.

Henderson is a 1969 employee of the Company. She began as departmental



Rogers



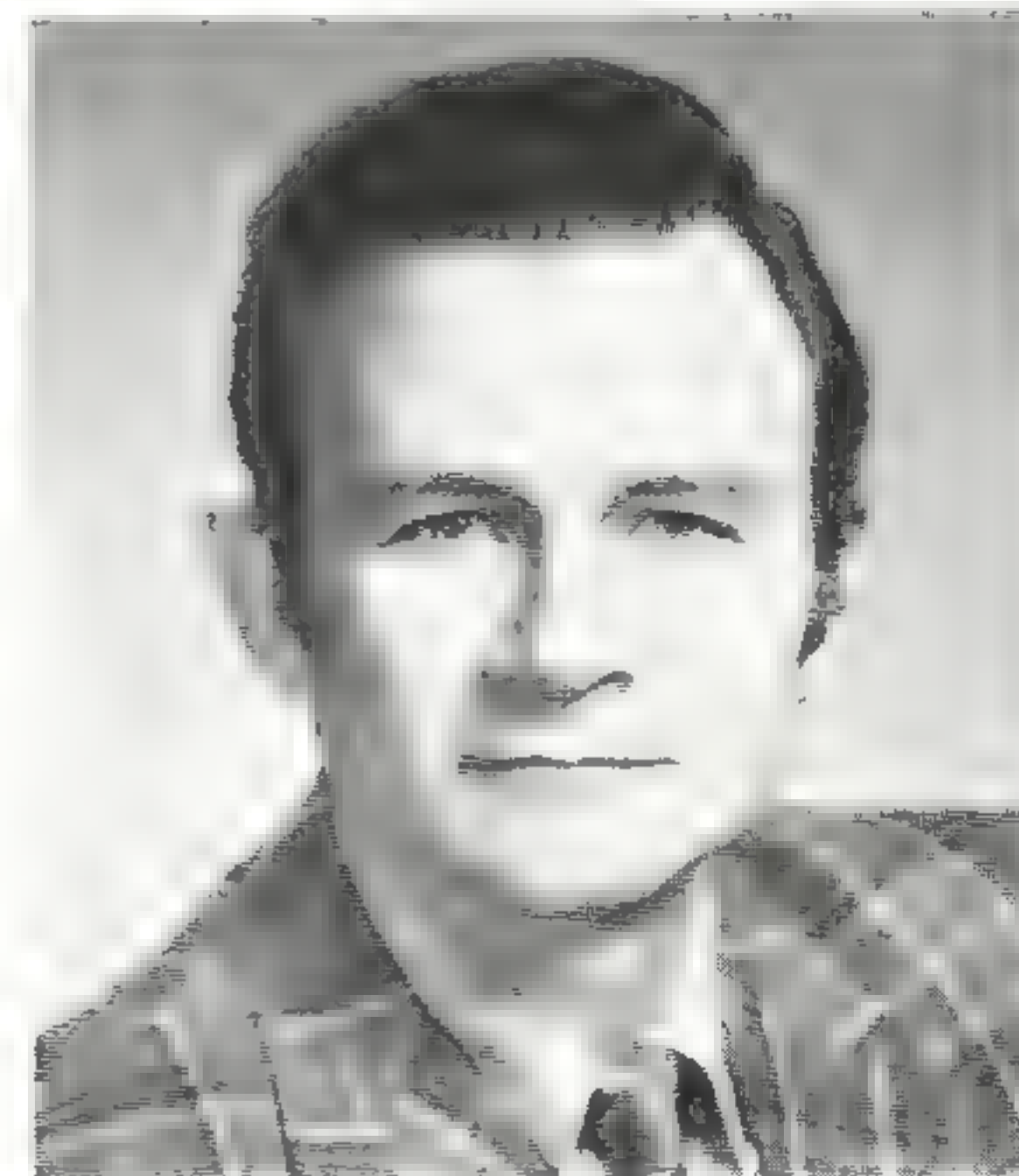
Henderson



Marshall



Gallier



Petry



clerk in IDS, and was promoted to section head in 1974.

She is a native of Choice, Tex. She attended Ayers Business School in Shreveport following her graduation from Shreveport Fair Park High School.

She is married to William R. Henderson, III, an employee of Texas U. S. Chemical in Port Neches. The couple has two children, Jeanie Ann and Richard.

Marshall, a 20-year employee of the Company, began her career as departmental clerk in the mailroom. She was promoted to senior departmental clerk in 1961.

A native of Bancroft, La., Marshall attended Sam Houston State University in Huntsville following her graduation from New London High School. She is married to Kenneth Marshall of Silsbee, and the couple has four children. They are Mrs. Cynthia Santos of Houston, Kenneth, Stephen and Vicki. She is active in civic organizations and is past president of the North Beaumont Lioness Club, a member of Colonel George Moffett Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Beaumont A&M Mother's Club.

**Burton G. Duhon**, consumer service representative in Lafayette, has been promoted to district accounting supervisor, Lafayette District.

Duhon was employed in 1967 as a residential sales representative in Lafayette. He is a Lafayette native and a 1963 graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana with a bachelor of science degree in business administration. He is a veteran of the U. S. Army.

Duhon is married to the former Maxine Duplechien of Opelousas, and the couple has two children, Chuck and Jody. Duhon is active in Little League baseball, and just happens to coach a team where the star outfielder is his son.



Duhon

**Eleanor J. Triplett**, administrator-payroll in the Accounting Services Department, has been promoted to director of Payroll Administration.

Mrs. Triplett, a native of Jonesboro, La., has been with the Company for 29 years. She was employed in 1948 as a stenographer in System Treasury. In 1957 she was promoted to confidential records clerk, and in 1962 was named assistant supervisor-confidential records and payroll, and in 1969 was promoted to supervisor.

**Dewey L. Lytle**, division engineer in the Baton Rouge Division, has been promoted to operating supervisor Baton Rouge Division.

Lytle, who came to Baton Rouge in 1973 as division engineer, was formerly an engineer in System Engineering in Beaumont. He is a native of Oklahoma and a graduate of Oklahoma State University in electrical engineering.

He is married to the former Laura Morris of Maud, Okla., and the couple has three children, Dennis, James and Kimberly.

**Edythe S. Mathews**, department clerk in Real Estate in Beaumont, has been transferred to Personnel Services and promoted to personnel department clerk.

A native Beaumont, Mathews, and her husband, Eldridge (instrument foreman in System Production), is active in the Southeast Texas Bluegrass Music Association. She is editor of that organization's newsletter.

She is a 1957 graduate of Vidor High School.

**Patrick Cecil Moore**, garage mechanic in Lake Charles T&D, has been promoted



Triplett



Mathews



Moore



Lytle





Cryer



Kelly

to shop foreman.

Moore is a 16-year veteran of the Company. He was employed in 1961 as a helper in T&D Line, Lake Charles. A native of Jennings, Moore is a veteran of the U. S. Air Force.

He is married to the former Kay Ledbetter of Roanoke, La., and the couple has two sons, Patrick Kyle and Charles Kendall. Moore is a master Mason in Lodge 462 Moss Bluff.

Two changes have been announced within the Material Services Department.

James E. Cryer, former training representative in Personnel Services in Baton Rouge, has been transferred to Beaumont and promoted to purchasing agent.

George E. Kelley, purchasing agent in Baton Rouge, has been transferred to the River Bend Station site and will be responsible for purchasing functions.

Cryer, a native of Port Arthur, is a 1958



Glascock

graduate of Louisiana Tech University with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. He joined GSU following his graduation and was assigned to T&D Engineering in Beaumont. He was promoted to industrial engineer in 1964, and electrical engineer in System Production in 1972. In 1973 he was transferred to Willow Glen Station as engineer, and became training representative in January of this year.

A veteran of the Air Force, Cryer is married to the former Gayle Comerford, and the couple has two children, Mary Elizabeth and John Patrick. Cryer is a registered engineer in Louisiana and Texas.

Kelly, a native of Jennings, was employed in 1967 as assistant purchasing agent in Baton Rouge. He was promoted to purchasing agent in 1976.

He is a 1963 graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana with a bachelor of science degree in commerce, and a veteran of the U. S. Army. Kelly is married to the former Ingrid Loewer of Branch, La., and the couple has two children, P. Brent and E. Paige.

James L. Glascock, consumer service representative in Baton Rouge, has been transferred to the Material Services Department and promoted to assistant purchasing agent.

Glascock was employed in 1965 as residential sales representative. Four months later he began a two year hitch with the U. S. Army. He was reinstated in 1969, and progressed to senior residential sales representative in 1970.

Glascock is a native of Franklin Parish, La., and is a 1967 graduate of Louisiana State University with a degree in business administration.

## Kitchen Tested 10 Calorie Diet

### MONDAY:

Breakfast — Weak Tea

Lunch — 1 Bouillon Cube in ½ cup diluted water

Dinner — 1 pigeon thigh and 3 oz. prune juice (gargle only)

### TUESDAY:

Breakfast — Scraped crumbs from burnt toast

Lunch — Doughnut hole (without sugar) and 1 glass dehydrated water

Dinner — 2 Jellyfish skins

### WEDNESDAY:

Breakfast — Boiled out stains from tablecloth

Lunch — ½ dozen poppyseeds

Dinner — Bees Knees and mosquito knuckles sauteed in vinegar

### THURSDAY:

Breakfast — Shredded egg shell skins

Lunch — Bellybuttons from navel oranges

Dinner — 2 eyes from Irish potatoes (diced)

### FRIDAY:

Breakfast — 2 Lobster Antennae

Lunch — 1 guppy fin

Dinner — Filet of soft shell crab claw

### SATURDAY:

Breakfast — Pickled Hummingbird tongue

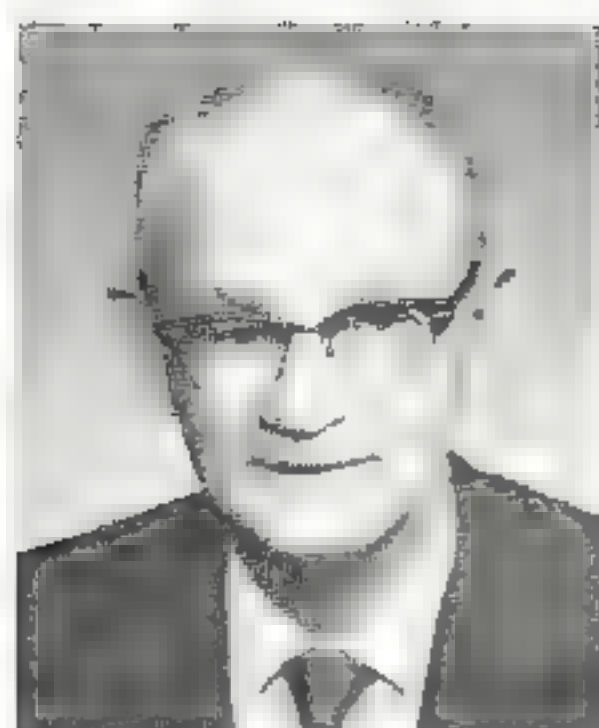
Lunch — Prime ribs of tadpole

Dinner — Aroma of empty custard pie plate. Tossed Paprika and clover leaf (1)

The first week you lose one hundred pounds, second week you lose another hundred, third week, we lose you.



# In Memoriam



Vernon Holland



Emery H. Pintsch

**Emery H. Pintsch**, retired Insurance & Claims manager for the Company, died Aug. 25.

Pintsch retired in January of 1973, after 45 years of service. He was a native of Menasha, Wisc.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Herring Pintsch of Alvin, Tex., and two children, William and Joyce.

**Jewell E. Harrington**, retired mast repairman from Louisiana Station in Baton Rouge, died June 29, in Baker.

Harrington had been in retirement since 1973. He was employed as a repairman's helper at Louisiana Station in 1940.

Harrington was a native of McComb, Miss., and was a veteran of the U'S. Army during World War II (1941-1945).



M. D. Van Winkle



Asa O. Barrow

**Vernon L. Holland**, retired mechanical maintenance foreman of Neches Station, died Sept. 26.

Holland had been retired for two months, after ending a career with the Company which spanned 38 years. He was a native of St. Francois County, Mo.

**Morris D. VanWinkle**, retired serviceman from Silsbee, died Aug. 28, six years after retiring.

VanWinkle was living in Carthage, Tex., at the time of his death.

VanWinkle was married to the former Novie Lorene Musgrove of Votaw, Tex., and the couple had two children.

**Mabel W. Johnson**, a departmental clerk in Beaumont who retired 22 years ago, died July 16, in Beaumont.

In her 38 year career with the Company and its predecessors, Ms. Johnson held a number of various assignments. She was employed in 1917 as a clerk.

She was a native of Jacksboro, Tex.

**Antoine J. Verret**, retired departmental clerk from Lake Charles, died July 30. He had retired 19 years ago.

Employed in 1927 as water works operator, Verret held a variety of assignments including power house operator, power house engineer, electric plant operator, load dispatcher, chief substation operator and water meter repairman.

Verret was a native of New Iberia, and until his retirement, had continuously served in the utility business since 1919 when hired by Stone & Webster.



Clarence Collins



Antoine J. Verret

**Asa O. Barrow**, retired Lake Charles party chief, died July 13, in Sulphur.

Barrow had retired May 1, 1976, after some 26 years of service. He joined the Company in 1950 as a rod and chainman in system engineering.

A native of Anahuac, Tex., Barrow was a veteran of the U.S. Army during World War II, and won five bronze stars in the process. He is survived by his wife, Hazel Tywater of Daisetta, Tex., and twin sons, Roy and Russell.

**Westley Fields**, retired laborer in the Production Department, Beaumont, died May 21, in Crowley, La.

Fields, a native of Lafayette, was employed in 1928 as extra laborer in Beaumont. He was promoted to laborer in 1932, and in 1933 was promoted to janitor. He became a laborer in production in 1941, and retired in 1963.

**Maderris P. Dufour**, substation mechanic first class in Baton Rouge, died June 9, in Baton Rouge.

Dufour had been an employee since 1969 when hired as a helper in the T&D Department. He became an apprentice in the line department in 1970, and was promoted to lineman fourth class in 1971. In 1972 he transferred to the substation department and progressed through various classifications. He became a substation mechanic first class in 1974.

Dufour was a native of Plaquemine, La.

**Clarence M. Collins**, special laborer in T&D Department (Substation) Beaumont, died July 7.

Collins had been an employee since 1949 as a laborer in the line department.

He was promoted to laborer II in 1963, and in 1967 was named special laborer.



# SERVICE AWARDS

## 40 Years



**William M. Hurt**  
Financial Services  
Beaumont



**John W. Lamm, Jr.**  
Division Operations  
Lafayette

## 30 Years



**Willis L. Armstrong**  
Electric T&D  
Orange



**Charles G. Callahan**  
Division Accounting  
Lake Charles



**F. G. Dupree, Jr.**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe



**Louis Gradnigo**  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**Robert Junot**  
Electric T&D  
Madisonville



**William O. Lepine**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**Robert L. Parks**  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**John Sebastian III**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe



**James T. Van Winkle**  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



# 20 Years



**Joseph W. Bogue**  
Information and Data  
Services  
Beaumont



**V. V. Boudreaux**  
Power Plant Engineering  
and Design  
Beaumont



**Raleigh E. Cunningham**  
Information and Data  
Services  
Beaumont



**David Domingue**  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**William A. Dotson, Jr.**  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**Claude H. Douget**  
Division Production  
Port Arthur



**Cesaire Guidry, Jr.**  
Electric T&D  
Silsbee



**Paul T. LaPoint**  
Electric T&D  
Lafayette



**Richard M. McCants**  
Electric T&D  
Conroe



**Charles A. McNeely**  
System Engineering  
Standards and Design  
Beaumont



**Nancy H. Melancon**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**Vincent J. Misuraca**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**Donald C. Sullivan**  
Division Marketing  
Baton Rouge



**Jerry D. Walker**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge

# 10 Years



**Marvin D. Ayres**  
Information and Data  
Services  
Beaumont



**Timothy P. Bryant**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**Charles A. Collier**  
System Engineering Design  
Beaumont



**Cheryl-Faye Carrell**  
Power Plant Construction  
Beaumont



**Burton G. Duhon**  
Division Marketing  
Lafayette



**Michael S. Durham**  
Personnel  
Beaumont





**Barry F. Glover**  
Division Operations  
Baton Rouge



**Steven A. Neeb**  
Division Production  
Beaumont



**James G. Oberg**  
System Production  
Beaumont



**Jean F. Sandifer**  
Electric T&D  
Orange



**Robert H. Smith**  
Electric T&D  
Orange



**Peggy K. Terry**  
Electric T&D  
Beaumont



**Edward G. Welch**  
Electric T&D  
Lake Charles



**Darrel A. Woodward**  
Electric T&D  
Beaumont



**William P. Withers**  
Electric T&D  
Baton Rouge



**John O. Yarbrough**  
Division Marketing  
Baton Rouge

# The Mail Bag

**Ms. Carolyn Joyce**  
Conroe, Texas

Dear Carolyn:

We, of the Conroe Lioness Club could not end our calendar year without telling you how much we appreciated your taking time out from your busy schedule to present the program for us.

Your tips on saving fuel in our homes are most helpful and I am sure will mean a substantial savings in money to us in time.

We are looking forward to having you again in the future.

Sincerely,

**Doris Buford**  
Secretary  
Conroe Lioness Club

\* \* \* \* \*

**Mr. Bill Richard**  
Lake Charles, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Richard:

Recently, probably due to lightning, some of the electric circuits at our house in the old Big Lake Settlement were knocked out.

Upon reporting it, were given immediate attention. Mr. Bob Stewart responded to the call.

We are constrained to report that Mr. Stewart corrected the problem quickly and efficiently. And incidentally, his friendliness and courtesy matched his efficiency. GSU has a good man in Bob Stewart.

Yours truly,

**Van M. Andrus**  
Cooperative Advertising Service

\* \* \* \* \*

**Charles DeCuir**  
Conroe, TX

Dear Charles:

Thank you and your company for the presentation you gave us on wise energy use and the demonstration on house construction techniques that will be used in the future. We feel obligated to keep abreast of the housing needs of the

homeowners and to convey to them how energy use will affect the marketability of their homes.

Through your discussion and demonstration, we feel that our associates can better communicate to the prospective buyers and sellers the philosophies on wise use of energy. If our clients wish further detail we will have them inquire with you for the analysis that you described as being available through your company.

We look forward to filling out the energy questionnaire and to having the results from you. If we may be of further help to you and Gulf States, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

**Tom Coltharp**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Mr. Ward McCurtain**  
Gulf States Utilities Company

Dear Ward:

On Tuesday night, September 6, the 220-volt lead to my house burned out, and I called the Gulf States Service Center, at about 7:00. Gulf States sent a repair crew, which arrived at about 7:30 or so, and promptly repaired the line. Fortunately, it was on Gulf States' side of the meter.

I want to thank you for such prompt service, and especially on the courtesy, helpfulness and speedy work done by the two repairmen, Mr. D. Cunningham and J. B. Flannagan.

I am sure you get many, many complaints concerning repairs, and I feel that where good, prompt and courteous work is done, it should be acknowledged.

Yours very truly,

**Howell Cobb**  
Attorney At Law  
Orgain, Bell & Tucker

\* \* \* \* \*



To the management of Gulf States Utilities,

I would like you all to know how helpful and complete one of your servicemen, namely, Mr. Bobby Stout, has been to me today.

We had been having some problems with our electrical system and thought perhaps Gulf States could help us before calling an electrician. Well, me being a fairly intelligent housewife, my knowledge of electricity leaves something to be desired. To say the least, Mr. Stout was overly patient and explained in detail and in language that I could understand and, in turn, relate to my husband. He also showed me which of my appliances was pulling the most electricity and how best to prevent any future problems.

He was pleasant, helpful and in my opinion, what the ordinary housewife would like to have come to her home as a serviceman.

In this day, we seem to hear only the complaints of cost or service of products so I felt the least I could do was to say thank you, for a change.

Please tell Mr. Stout, again, for me how I appreciate his helpfulness.

Thank you,

Jean Wendell  
(Mrs. Jay)

\* \* \* \* \*

Mrs. JoAnn Smith  
Supervisor Consumer Services

Dear JoAnn,

Thank you for sharing from the world home economists in business with our freshman students. I always appreciate your willingness to come and to bring professional insights and experiences to those anticipating careers in home economics. In behalf of our housing students, I also wish to thank you for inviting us to the energy conservation home display in Westhaven Terrace. This was an excellent opportunity to learn more about construction techniques for energy efficiency.

Thank you again for the many instances in which Gulf States and you in particular have contributed to the quality of education in our classrooms

Sincerely,

Jane Hinchey, Assistant Professor  
Lamar University

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Harrison Carlon, Supervisor  
Lafayette, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Carlon:

I recently had electric power connected in the Milton area by one of your men, Mr. Tom Arabie, and found him most cooperative. He offered constructive suggestions before he connected electric power and was courteous and prompt at all times.

Let me express my thanks to Gulf States and Mr. Arabie for his service.

Sincerely

J. Chester Baudoin

\* \* \* \* \*

Gulf States Utilities, Co.  
Port Arthur, Texas 77640

ATTENTION MANAGER:

Dear Sir,

I, am writing to you to commend your workmen, in the Sabine Pass, area. Being in business, and having my home here, I, have had numerous opportunities to have the need of the services of the electric company. I have always had the best of service from the workmen here.

Just letting you know how much we appreciate the courteous, and efficient service we have had in the past.

Thank you, sincerely,

O. D. La Bove

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. James S. Turner  
Director Public Relations

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your very generous and timely gift for Renee Marshall as a prize winner for helping to name the nuclear power plant in Newton County.

Your investment in the youth of America at Lamar Univeristy is greatly appreciated by the entire Lamar University family.

Again, thank you for your generosity. Your contribution will pay rich dividends in the lives and achievements of the young people who will benefit from higher education at Lamar University.

Sincerely

Charles L. Schmucker  
Director of Development  
Lamar University

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. G. G. Hall  
Neches Station

Dear Gandy,

I want to use this opportunity to express sincere congratulations and best wishes for your retirement from Gulf States.

I am sure GSU is making appropriate recognition of the service you have provided to them over the years. I want to express the appreciation of Pennwalt and myself for the advice and assistance you have provided us. In a symbolic way, we were the "new kid on the block" and could have had a difficult time here. Our other industrial neighbors and you did not let that happen and actually helped us in many ways not neccessitated by business relationships. We genuinely appreciate your interest in us since we have been in Beaumont.

We certainly do look forward to working with your successor at Neches Station, but we will always miss you in this capacity.

Best wishes!

Sincerely,

Wayne O'Quin  
Pennwalt Corp.



# COFFEE CUP



**GOING AWAY** — Kathleen Wright, center, was given a going away party by her friends and co-workers in Port Arthur. Kathleen, a clerk in the Accounting Department, is leaving the Company to set up home in Houston. (from Sue Williams)



**SO LONG JEFFIE** — Jeffie Simms and his wife were honored at a retirement party for the 30-year veteran. Simms retired from the appliance repair department at the Beaumont Service Center. His friends and co-workers presented Mr. and Mrs. Simms with gifts and a check for \$100 to start his retirement off right. (from Carolyn Motl)

## Reporters

When you have any news or a story you think would be interesting to other Gulf Staters, contact the reporter nearest to you, or write or call the **PLAIN TALKS** editor, Pat McMeel, in Beaumont. Notify **PLAIN TALKS** reporters of any event that is happening in your area that the magazine should cover. A complete list of reporters and their locations is given below. If any persons named are no longer active reporters, please contact Pat McMeel. Persons wishing to become **PLAIN TALKS** reporters should also contact the editor. We can never have too many reporters.

**BATON ROUGE:** Margie Force (T&D); T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Hima (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), Geralyn Williams (Gas), Glenda Boyd (Acct.), Mary Smith, Robert Graves (Storeroom), Susan Wilks, Debbie Lynn (Engr.), Linda Nelson (Meter), Rhonda Cheek (Govt. St.)

**BEAUMONT:** Bill Toups (S.C.), Carolyn Motl (T&D), Ann Ogden, Edy Mathews, Dorothy Nowell, Carolyn Thaggard, Gene Russell

**CALVERT:** Betty Dowell

**CLEVELAND:** Edd Mitchell

**CONROE:** Frances Elliot, Marilyn Key, Pat Jones

**DENHAM SPRINGS:** Lenelle Juban.

**GONZALES:** Billie Fortenberry.

**HUNTSVILLE:** Karen Morley.

**JENNINGS:** Earl Mayfield.

**LAFAYETTE:** Mona Burris

**LAKE CHARLES:** Billie Belvin (Garage), Edith Patterson (T&D), Janet Followay

**LA. STATION:** Marilyn Nicholson.

**LEWIS CREEK:** D. W. Rutherford.

**MADISONVILLE:** Jean Tinsley.

**NAVASOTA:** Betty Dickschat.

**NECHES STATION:** Terry Bond, Ed Foster.

**NELSON STATION:** Martha Caldwell.

**NEW CANEY:** Diana Winkelmann, Paul Mosley.

**ORANGE:** Doris Womack.

**PORT ALLEN:** Adele Vavasseur

**PORT ARTHUR:** Sue Williams, Lorraine Dunham (S.C.)

**SABINE STATION:** Darlene Faires, Fred Kressman.

**SOMERVILLE:** Mary Brock.

**SULPHUR:** Pearl Burnett.

**WILLOW GLEN:** Dora Landaiche, James Veatch.

**WOODVILLE:** Alene Cole.

**ZACHARY:** Myra Ponthier





**BATON ROUGE TO BOSTON** — Kathleen Strickland, engineering helper in Baton Rouge, was given a going away party by her friends before she left the South for the cold cold North. Kathleen was given a clock and jewelry and with a cake. (from Margie Force)



**PHOTO BREAK** — Members of this Lake Charles Division crew decided to take a quick "photo break" while working on the installation of underground service to a new subdivision. On top, left to right, are A. Henry and J. Manuel. Standing, left to right, are L. Cox, N. Slaughter and C. Berry. The new subdivision is called Country Club Acres. (from Edith Patterson)

The hardhat-on-the-job requirement dates back more than 1,600 years to the reign of Constantine the Great when the Egyptian obelisk was being erected in Rome's Circus Maximus. The job foreman ordered his men to wear metal helmets to protect them from falling masonry, says National Geographic.



**LEAVING**—On September 9, Frank Washington, helper in the Substation Department, Lake Charles, was honored with a retirement party. Friends and fellow workers turned out for a barbecue and presented Frank with a going-away gift of money. The folks in the picture are: Washington's wife; Washington; and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Joseph, Washington's son-in-law and daughter. (from Edith Patterson)

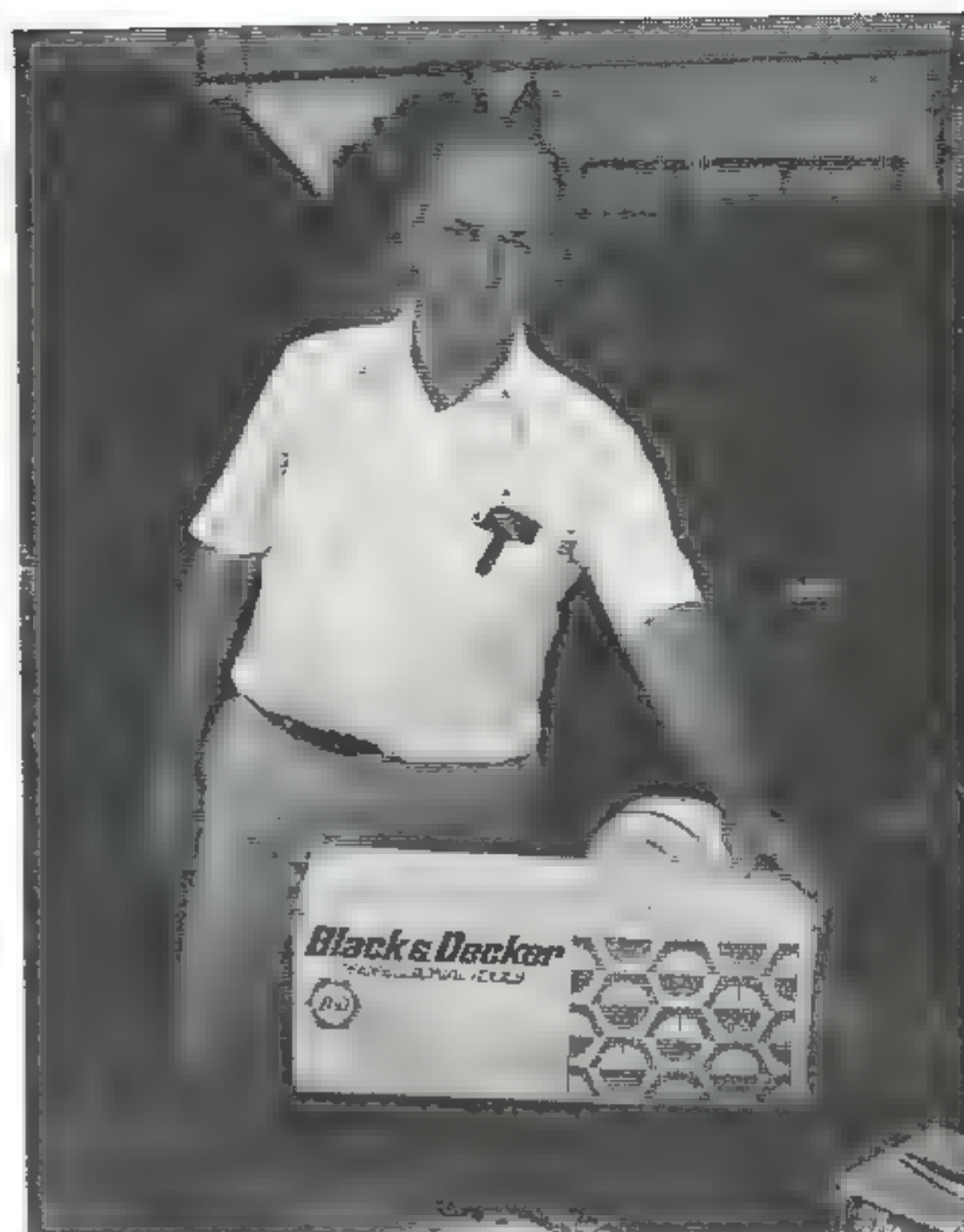


**GETTING NOWHERE**—Fabien Daigle, T&D Substation-Baton Rouge, has ridden his stationary bicycle for 3,330 miles, a greater distance than San Francisco to New York City. A little over three years ago, at the suggestion of his doctor, Fabien began his trip to nowhere to help his blood circulation and the toning of his joints after a bout of phlebitis. He's been at it ever since and, hypothetically, is somewhere in West Virginia heading back to the West Coast.





**SO LONG**—Phyllis S. Case (third from left, back row), departmental clerk in Baton Rouge, enjoyed a going away party given by her friends at work. Front row, left to right, are Lou Ann Lee and Amanda Tucker. On the back row, l to r, are Margie Force, Paulette, Donellan, Phyllis and Vita Vendt. Phyllis is leaving after six and a half years with the company to become a full-time housewife. The party featured cake and watermelon, as well as a \$50 bill presented to Phyllis.



**GOING AWAY GIFT**— William Harris, master repairman at Neches Station, poses with his farewell gift of a power grinder. Harris also received money, and his International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) retirement pin. Harris began working for GSU in January, 1942, as a diesel plant operator in Jasper. He was transferred to Neches Station in September, 1950. Harris' retirement was effective September 1, of this year. (from Ed Foster)



**HIS DAY**—Albert Baird was the guest of honor at a retirement party thrown for him by his friends and family. On hand for the event was his son, Al, who flew in from Boston to be with his father and mother. Among the gifts presented to Baird was a drawing of Baird in his early days. The art was done by Company artist Ken Haynie from an old photograph. (from Carolyn Motl)



**ANOTHER YEAR**—Ronnie Carlin, division accounting supervisor in Port Arthur, was all smiles during a birthday party given him by his friends. Ronnie admitted that "these things" seem to be coming more often now than they used to. (from Sue Williams)





**TOP CAJUN**—Summa Stelly, division manager in Port Arthur, was presented with a cake inscribed "I'm So Smart I Make Myself Sick." The cake was given by his fellow employees upon his return from a three week management school in Georgia. Stelly was elected the president of his class. (from Sue Williams)



**SURPRISE FOR THE BOSS** — Albert Baird celebrated his 65th birthday in style. On hand to wish Baird the best of luck were, left to right, Flo Strawther, Linda Smith, Jerry Terry, Carolyn Motl, Lee Castilaw, Rose Ann Johnson, JoAnne Landry and Joyce Smith. (from Carolyn Motl)

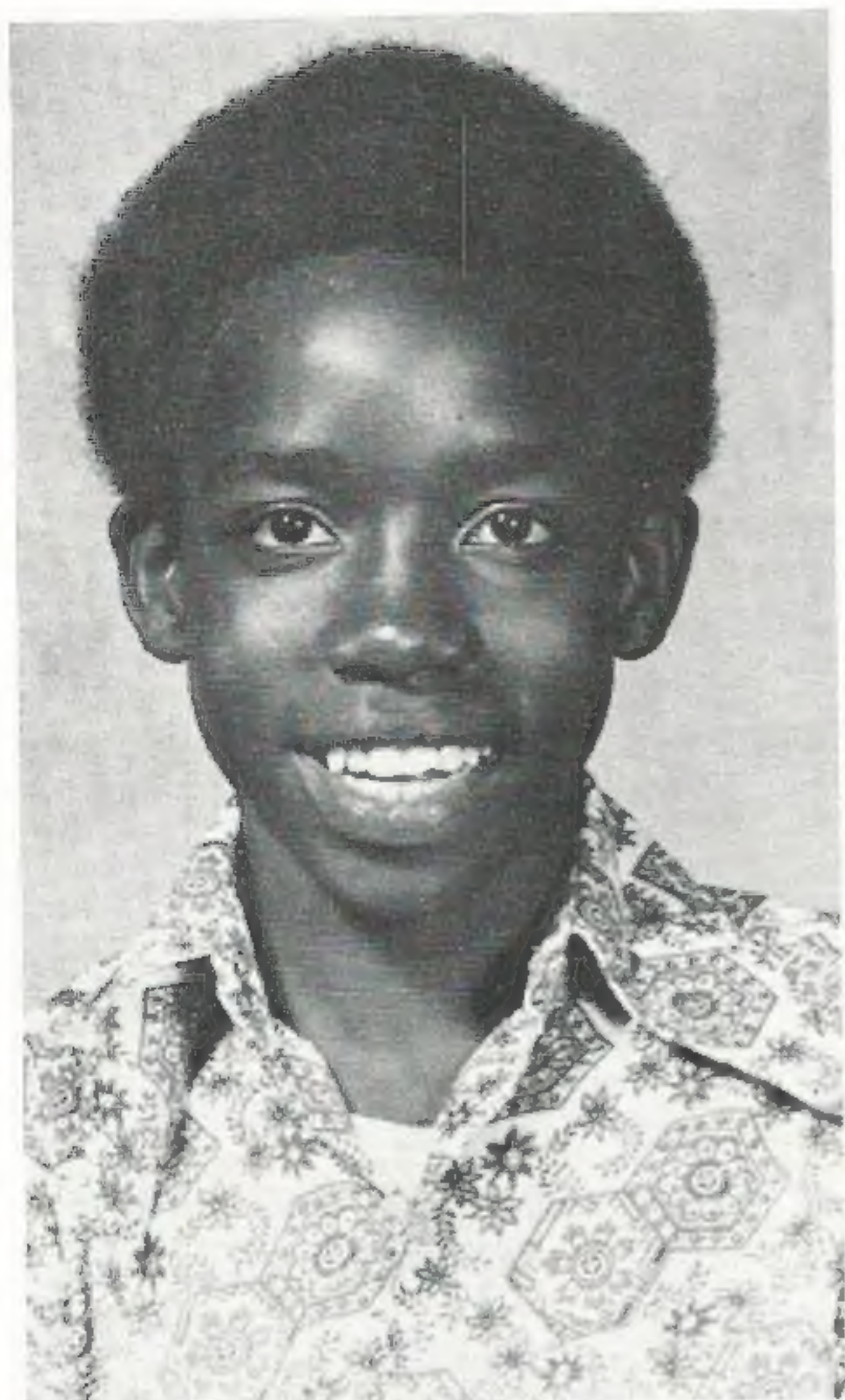


**MOVIN' ON**—Karen Norwood, center, was presented a cake by her friends and co-workers in the Port Arthur accounting department prior to her leaving for Mid-County where she becomes local office clerk. With Karen are Gail Harris and Patti Williams. (from Sue Williams)



**GOOD LUCK BEN!!!!**—Lafayette employees held a barbeque in September for Bernard Wiltz and his wife. Ben retired October 1, to a life of fishing, traveling and just generally doing nothing." Ben worked as the appliance repairman in Lafayette for the past years and as one employee put it, "the women are sure going to hate to see him go!". Ben received a salt water rod and reel, a World's Greatest Fisherman Plaque, and a cash donation which he used to buy a new motor for his boat. His wife received a lovely rose corsage and a compact. To Ben we say, Good Luck and Good Fishing!! (from Mara Burris)





**Harold Sanco**



**Dana Sanco**



**HOOKED**—Sharon Stelly, daughter of Johnnie and Harry Stelly, shows off her catch from a recent fishing trip. Harry is department head in T&D Engineering, Lake Charles, while Johnnie is a department clerk, T&D Engineering, Lake Charles. The fish came from a private pond near Ragley, La., where Sharon, Johnnie and Jo Ann Burnett, secretary to the division manager, took a day off to go after the BIG ones.



**WATCH OUT!**—Joe M. O'Neill, labor foreman, Cleveland, shows off the watch friends game him at his going away party. Joe was transferred to Conroe, but he didn't leave before his party, with refreshments and boiled shrimp. The fellow tasting the gift is B. E. Lilley, utility foreman in Cleveland.



**RETIREMENT RECEPTION**—V. V. McGee, appliance repairman first class in Port Arthur, was honored with a retirement reception for his 38 years of service. "McGee," as everyone calls him, is shown (on the right) receiving a "bundle of money" from Lloyd Craig, building and ground maintenance foreman in Port Arthur. Plenty of friends and retirees turned out for the event, where McGee was joined by his wife, Justine and son, Keith. (from Sue Williams)

Dana Sanco and Harold Sanco, Jr., children of Harold Sanco (Neches Power Station), played some good, solid tennis recently.

In the Optimist All-City Junior Tennis Tournament, Dana was the first champion crowned at the tournament, defeating Lori Baggett 6-0, 7-5, for the Girls 14 Singles Title. In the same tournament, Dana's brother, Harold, made the finals in the Boys 16 singles.

At the Texas Athletic Federation Tournament, Dana, and partner Cheryl Greenwood, won the Girls 14 Doubles

crown, while Harold made it to the Boys 16 semifinals before losing 6-2, 6-3. In the Boys 16 Doubles, Harold's team made it to the finals before going down to defeat.

Dana continued her winning ways at a tournament in Silsbee, taking the Junior Mixed Doubles title with partner Reginald Roper. At another event in Longview, Dana and Cheryl Greenwood took second place trophies in doubles after losing in the finals, 6-0, 7-5.

That's a lot of tennis and lot of winning for the "Sanco Gang!"



# YOUR BEST SHOT

Almost everyone at one time or another has taken what he considers to be his "best shot."

If you have a best shot you would like to see reproduced here, send it, with the negative if possible, to the PLAIN TALKS office in Beaumont. Your picture can be of any subject, taken with any camera. If selected for use it will automatically be in the running for "Best Shot of the Year," with the winner receiving a nice plaque. Okay . . . take your best shot.

**JAPAN IN LOUISIANA**—There is much to see in Louisiana if you take the time to find out. Charles Foss, for the third time, has submitted his "Best Shot" of this Japanese Tea House in Live Oak Gardens south of Lafayette. Foss captured this image with an Olympus-OM 1 35mm camera using a 28mm wide angle lens. His shutter speed was set at 1/60 of a second at f.11.





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